

2 February 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Government Organization Commissions

1. S. 47, introduced by Senator James B. Pearson (R., Kans.) for himself and 41 cosponsors, and S. 2116, introduced by Senator Abraham Ribicoff (D., Conn.) for himself and 21 cosponsors, are the subject of hearings before the Subcommittee on Executive Reorganization, Senate Government Operations, which is chaired by Senator Ribicoff.

2. Both bills establish a Commission designed to study the organization and management of the Executive Branch of the Government. Under Pearson's bill the Commission's findings and recommendations are to be reported to the Congress. Under Ribicoff's bill the findings and recommendations are to be transmitted to both the President and the Congress.

3. Both bills have similar objectives with S. 47 focusing more on efficiency and elimination of duplication, and S. 2116 on quality and quantity of coordination. Both bills provide the Commission statutory authority to secure information directly from the Executive Branch and authorizes and directs the Executive Branch to furnish such information without exceptions. However, S. 2116 recognizes potential conflict between this authority and national security interests by making the authority "Subject to requirements of national security . . ." (Section 5(e)).


Office of Legislative Counsel

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